

### "IT'S IN OUR HANDS"

The Governor's Commission on Middle Eastern
American Affairs and Lifebridge Health First Annual
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#### WHAT IS IT?

- The census is a count of everyone living in the United States.
- Done every 10 years.
- Mandated by the US Constitution.
- The next census is in April, 2010.



# IT'S EASY



- The 2010 Census will use one of the shortest forms in US Census history.
- Census form comes to your home in the mail.
- Contains 10 short topics
- Will take only a few minutes to complete.
  - Asks for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home.
- Return the completed form in the mail.





#### IT'S SAFE

- All information collected by the Census Bureau is confidential by law (Title 13).
- What does this mean?
  - We can not give your personal information to anyone, including immigration or law enforcement agencies.
  - The information collected by the census is for statistical purposes only.



#### IT'S IMPORTANT

- Provides your community with its fair share of government money.
  - \$300 billion per year for hospitals, schools, libraries, roads, services for the elderly, transportation, etc.
- Allows correct political representation for your state in the House of Representatives (Congress).
- Helps your community plan for the future.



- Census employees will begin confirming all addresses using handheld computers in April, 2009.
  - Say hello when you see us in your neighborhood!

**April** 

Address confirmation

2009



 A questionnaire will come in the mail to your home in March, 2010.

April

Address confirmation

March

Forms mailed to homes

2009



- April 1, 2010 is CENSUS DAY!
  - Complete your questionnaire and mail it back to us.
  - We need to count people once, only once, and in the right place (where you live and sleep most of the time).

#### **April**

Address confirmation

March Forms mailed to homes

April 1 CENSUS DAY

2009



#### April 1, 2010 is CENSUS DAY!

- Special operations are in place for prisons, college dormitories, senior-care facilities and the homeless population.
- Questionnaires will be available at special locations for anyone who believes they were missed by the mail.



May 2010 – Non-response follow-up begins.

Analyze and deliver statistical data to decision-makers, starting with the President in **December**, **2010**.

April
Address
confirmation

MarchApril 1MayFormsCENSUSNon-mailed toDAYResponsehomesFollow-Up

December
Deliver
results to
President

2009



#### THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- What is a "partnership"?
  - A mutually beneficial relationship that helps both partners accomplish more together than they could alone.
- The Census Bureau needs help from influential leaders in your community to educate everyone about the importance of the census.



#### THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- How does the Census Bureau help our partners?
  - Obtaining an accurate count means getting your fair share of funding and political representation.
  - We can provide you with helpful data about your community.
  - The census brings jobs to your community.



#### **JOBS WITH THE CENSUS**

- 1.4 million temporary workers are needed.
- Competitive weekly pay, flexible hours, and a chance to make a difference for your community.
- Qualifications:

At least 18 years old.

US citizenship preferred.

Able to speak English.

Take a written basic skills test

Pass a background check.

For more information, call **1-866-861-2010**,

or visit www.2010censusjobs.gov.



#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

- Encourage people to complete the questionnaire.
   Display or distribute census materials, including job opportunities.
- Provide space for testing and training new employees.
- Provide space for Questionnaire Assistance Centers or Be Counted sites.
- Invite a Census Bureau representative to make a presentation at your meeting or to host an exhibit at your event.

#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

- Include information about the census on your websites, publications and broadcasts.
- Participate in a Complete Count Committee.
- Provide translation services.
- Sponsor an event or special initiative.
- Any other ideas are welcome!



# AMÉRICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

In the 2000 Census, some households received a detailed questionnaire asking for socioeconomic information in addition to basic family information. This has changed for 2010.

- In 2010, everyone will receive a short form.
- Detailed socioeconomic information is now collected by the **American Community Survey** (the former long form).



# AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

- 250,000 ACS forms are mailed to random households every month.
- Results are analyzed every year instead of every 10 years, providing more current information.
- Important: You might receive both forms.



## REMEMBER ...





It's easy!

It's important!





# **IT'S IN OUR HANDS!**

- Let's work together to make the 2010 Census the most complete and accurate census in history.
- Our families and our communities are counting on us.

